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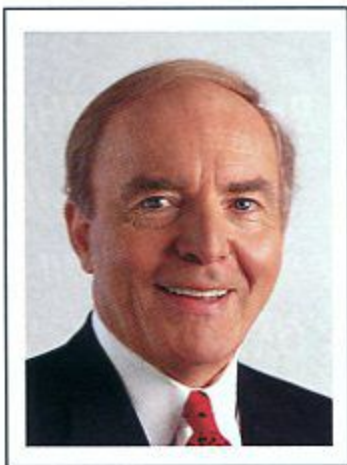
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# Working Together

*WDKX and the Rhinos are teaming up to make the game of soccer fun and exciting.*

When Andrew A. Langston was growing up in Georgia, he used to cad-die at a local golf course. He observed how the men would swing the club, chip around the greens and line up their putts to finish the hole out. To this day, Langston uses that power of observation to help his golf game (he's a scratch golfer), and teach a very important lesson to today's youth.

Langston, owner of Rochester radio station WDKX-FM, is a firm believer that sports has a positive effect on youth. That's why he is excited that professional soccer is back in town, and he wholeheartedly supports the Rochester Raging Rhinos of the American Professional Soccer League.

"I'm glad that the Rhinos are here in Rochester," says Langston. "It's another sporting and entertainment alternative for the kids in the summertime. The lesson I try to tell the kids is if you watch a game long enough, then you can

do it. I really believe that with all of the kids playing soccer in the area, the city of Rochester will embrace the Rhinos and welcome pro soccer back."

Langston, who named his radio station after Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, - WDKX - is a firm believer that giving back to the community is priority number one for all of his businesses, especially the radio station. After 22 years on the air, WDKX is a leader among the local media in providing community support in Rochester.

"I love when the different communities of this area mix together in an atmosphere of fun and partnership," continues Langston. "Soccer is a world-wide sport, the one game in the world that really brings everyone together for the good of the game. I know that kids of all races and backgrounds will be attending Rhino games this summer. More importantly, the Rhinos are making a commitment

back to the community by reaching out with their players and staff by holding clinics and games for the kids. It's another outlet in the city for kids to use their energy in a positive way."

WDKX and the Rhinos will partner this summer in many projects aimed at youth soccer and the involvement of people of all colors. Soccer is a team sport, and what better game to show that if you work together, good things will happen.

"Everyone can learn to play - if you listen, practice and keep the mind and body in shape, only positive things will come from the experience," says Langston. "The players on the Rhinos, they know that practice and positive thoughts only help their game. That is what they need to teach the kids."

WDKX and the Rhinos are teaming up to make the game of soccer fun and exciting. Working together to make the Rochester community a better place to live.

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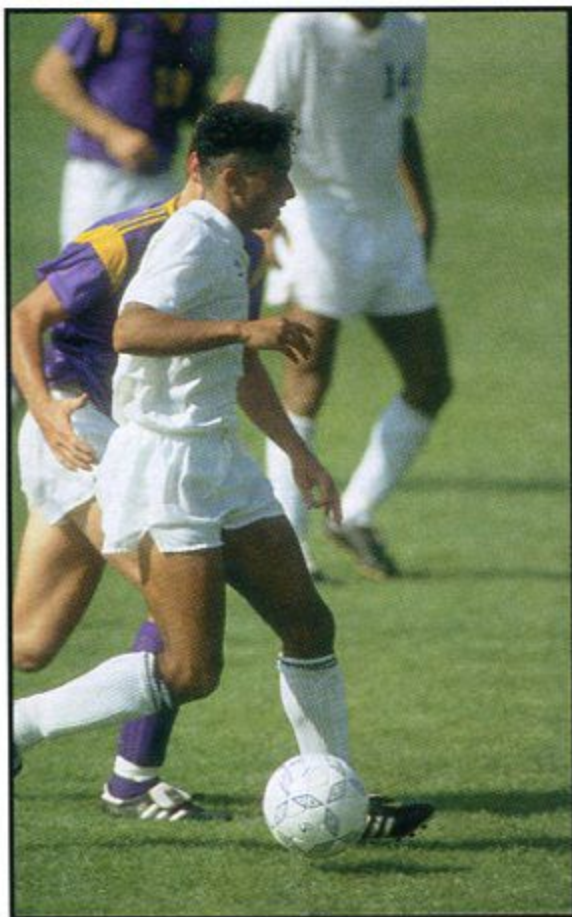
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## ROCHESTER RAGING RHINOS TEAM DIRECTORY

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Chief Executive Officer:  
*Steve Donner*

President: *Frank DuRoss*

Vice-President/General Manager:  
*Chris Economides*

Vice-President/Operations:  
*Joe Baumann*

Head Coach: *Pat Ercoli*

Assistant Coach: *Frank Odoi*

Head Trainer: *Craig Rand*

Assistant to the General Manager:  
*Sam Fantauzzo*

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## VICE-PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER

**Chris Economides**



Chris Economides returns to the game of professional soccer in his hometown as Vice-President and General Manager of the Rhinos. Economides has teamed with Steve Donner and Frank DuRoss as owners of the A-League expansion franchise, and he brings to the team a soccer background and ownership experience.

Economides previously was co-owner of the Kansas City Attack of the indoor NPSL for two seasons, 1991-92 and 1992-93. The Attack captured the NPSL championship in 1992-93, finishing a successful regular season and defeating Cleveland 3-2 in the finals before 12,000 in Kemper Arena.

A native of Rochester, Chris graduated from MCC and Eastridge High School. He has owned various restaurants in the area while pursuing his soccer dream. Chris, his wife Donna and their two sons are active in youth soccer, hockey and baseball.

## HEAD COACH

**Pat Ercoli**



Guiding the Rhinos in their inaugural season of A-League play is Pat Ercoli, a 37 year-old native of Toronto who is no stranger to Rochester soccer fans. Ercoli starred for the Rochester Lancers of the NASL for three seasons (1978-80), where his hard work and tenacious play made him a fan favorite. He will bring that same philosophy to the Rhinos as he prepares the expansion club for its first season.

Ercoli began his professional soccer career with Toronto Italia (NSL) in 1976 before moving to the Toronto Castors the following season, winning a championship. While playing the next three seasons with the Lancers, Ercoli adopted the indoor game as well, playing for the New York Arrows of the MISL. Ercoli also played with Detroit, Buffalo and Baltimore in the MISL before closing his ten-year professional career with the Cleveland Force. He captured three MISL division championships and one overall league title while with Baltimore.

Since his retirement from the pro game, Ercoli has lived in Rochester with his wife Karen and four children while entering private business. He kept active in soccer by coaching youth leagues, and has spent time as an assistant coach with Finger Lakes Community College and Monroe Community College.

## ASSISTANT COACH

**Frank Odoi**



Former Lancer Frank Odoi rejoins teammate Pat Ercoli in the Rhinos first season of A-League play as assistant coach. A popular soccer figure in the city of Rochester, Odoi played nine seasons with the Lancers from 1970 through 1978, helping Rochester to the NASL championship in 1970. The native of Ghana, Africa has played against such stars as Pele (Brazil), Johann Cruiff (Holland), Eusebio (Portugal), George Best (England) and Franz Beckenbauer (Germany)

during his 18-year pro career.

Odoi began his professional career in Ghana, where he played for the National Team and represented Ghana in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. He was selected as the best player in Tunis in 1965 as Ghana captured the African Cup. Drafted by the Washington Whips of the NASL in 1966, Odoi came to the United States in 1968 and played for the Whips that season before moving to the Syracuse Scorpions in 1969. Odoi was the Lancers MVP for the 1974 and 1975 seasons, playing both the forward and midfield positions.

Odoi recently was assistant soccer coach at Brockport State, and he has coached many championship youth soccer teams in the area during the past years.



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# SOCCEER

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**CENTER** – Passing the ball from a wide position on the field into the penalty area.

**CHARGING** – Pushing the opponent off balance illegally by shoulder to shoulder contact.

**CHIP** – A high, soft kick taken to lift the ball over the heads of the opponents.

**CLEAR** – A throw or kick by the goalkeeper or a kick by the defender in an attempt to get the ball away from the goal area.

**CROSS** – Same type of pass as the center pass.

**DEFENDER** – Primarily a defensive player who assists the goalkeeper in protecting the goal.

**DRIBBLE** – A way of advancing the ball past defenders by a series of short taps with one or both feet.

**FORWARD** – Primarily an attacking player whose responsibility is to create and score goals.

**GOALKEEPER** – The last line of defense. The only player who can use his hands within the field of play. He is limited to using his hands only within the penalty area.

**HALF-VOLLEY** – Kicking the ball just as it is rebounding off the ground.

**HANDS** – Illegal act of intentionally touching the ball with hands or arms.

**HEADING** – A method of scoring, passing, and controlling the ball by making contact with the head.

**MARKING** – Guarding an opponent.

**OBSTRUCTING** – Preventing the opponent from going around a player by standing in his path.

**OVERLAP** – The attacking play of a defender going down the touchline past his own winger.

**PITCH** – Another name for the field of play.

**SAVE** – The goalkeeper stopping an attempted goal by catching or deflecting the ball away from the goal.

**SCREEN** – Retaining possession and protecting the ball by keeping your body between the ball and the opponent.

**SLIDING TACKLE** – Attempting to take the ball away from the opponent by sliding on the ground.

**STRIKER** – A central forward position on the team with a major responsibility for scoring goals.

**SWEEPER** – A defender who roams either in front or behind the defender line to pick up stray passes.

**TACKLING** – Attempting to or taking the ball away from an opponent when both players are playing the ball with their feet.

**TRAP** – Controlling a passed ball by means of the feet, thighs or chest.

**VOLLEY** – Kicking the ball while it is in flight.

**WALL PASS** – A pass to a teammate followed by a first time return pass on the other side of the opponent. Also known as a "give and go".

**WING** – An area of the field near the touchline.

**WINGER** – Name given to the right and left outside forwards.





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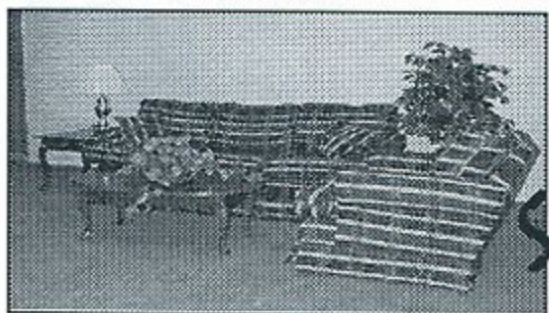


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# ROCHESTER RHINOS

## 1996 PLAYER PERSONNEL

NO.	NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	DOB	COUNTRY	LAST CLUB
0	Rett Thompson	GK	6-4	200	11/17/69	USA	Wisconsin-Big 10
1	Bill Andracki	GK	6-0	185	5/25/69	USA	Chicago-NPSL
2	Marco Rizi	D	6-1	190	9/15/68	USA	Buffalo-NPSL
3	Tim Ashe	D	6-0	170	2/7/70	USA	University of Buffalo
4	Leon Minott	D	5-7	150	6/19/69	USA	Jamaican National Team
5	Yuri Smotrich	D	6-2	180	6/5/62	Ukraine	Chernomorets-Ukraine First Div.
6	Rene Rivas	D	6-2	180	10/18/68	Brazil	S.C. Campomaier-Portugal
7	Zoran Karic	M	5-9	160	8/1/61	USA	Cleveland-NPSL
8	Tommy Tanner	M	5-8	150	5/10/68	USA	Cleveland-NPSL
9	Danny Kelly	M	5-9	160	3/7/69	USA	Harrisburg-NPSL
10	Yogi McKay	M	5-8	160	6/16/65	USA	Buffalo-NPSL
11	Kofi Debrah	F	5-8	160	8/6/71	Ghana	Goldfields-Ghanaian 1st Division
12	Gustavo Romanello	F	6-0	170	9/11/72	USA	Inter de Tijuana-Mexican First Div.
14	Gustavo Villagra	M	6-1	180	2/13/70	Argentina	Inter de Tijuana-Mexican First Div.
15	Howard Allen	F	5-9	170	2/17/68	USA	Roberts Wesleyan
16	Chris Kennell	D	6-1	175	8/7/69	USA	Hawaii-USISL
17	Fuscini Dauda	F	6-2	185	5/29/75	Canada	Montreal-CSL
18	Carl Hopfinger	F	5-10	175	2/4/68	USA	Michigan State
19	Doug Miller	F	5-8	155	5/5/69	USA	Cleveland-NPSL
20	Ken Tometsko	M	6-2	180	5/9/70	USA	Cornell-Ivy League
21	Hector Marinaro	M	5-9	155	12/6/64	USA	Cleveland-NPSL
22	Darrell Stuart	F	5-6	160	5/16/67	USA	St. John Fisher College

GENERAL MANAGER: Chris Economides

HEAD COACH: Pat Ercoli

ASSISTANT COACH: Frank Odoi

HEAD TRAINER: Craig Rand

## 1996 ROCHESTER RHINOS SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPON.	SITE	TIME	DATE	OPPON.	SITE	TIME
Fri., May 10	<b>New York Fever</b>	Fauver Stadium	8:00 pm	Sat., Aug. 3	<b>Seattle Sounders</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm
Fri., May 31	<b>Seattle Sounders</b>	Fauver Stadium	7:35 pm	Wed., Aug. 7	<b>Vancouver 86'ers</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm
Sun., June 9	at Montreal Impact	in Quebec City	4:00 pm	Sat., Aug. 10	<b>New York Fever</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm
Sat., June 15	<b>Montreal Impact</b>	Fauver Stadium	7:35 pm	Wed., Aug. 14	at Seattle Sounders	Memorial Stadium	10:00 pm
Fri., June 21	<b>Vancouver 86'ers</b>	Fauver Stadium	7:35 pm	Fri., Aug. 16	at Vancouver 86'ers	Swangard Stadium	10:30 pm
Thu., June 27	at Colorado Foxes	Mile High Grey. Pk	9:30 pm	Sun., Aug. 18	at Colorado Foxes	Mile High Grey. Pk	7:30 pm
Sat., June 29	at Seattle Sounders	Memorial Stadium	10:00 pm	Wed., Aug. 21	<b>Colorado Foxes</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm
Fri., July 5	at Vancouver 86'ers	Swangard Stadium	10:30 pm	Sat., Aug. 24	at Atlanta Ruckus	Adams Stadium	7:30 pm
Sun., July 7	at Atlanta Ruckus	Adams Stadium	7:30 pm	Sun., Aug. 25	<b>New York Fever</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm
Wed., July 10	at Montreal Impact	Claude-Robillard Ctr.	7:30 pm	Fri., Aug. 30	<b>Atlanta Ruckus</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm
Fri., July 12	<b>Montreal Impact</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm	Sun., Sept. 1	at Atlanta Ruckus	Adams Stadium	7:30 pm
Sat., July 13	vs. New York Fever	Hershey, Pa.	7:30 pm	Wed., Sept. 4	at Montreal Impact	Claude-Robillard Ctr.	7:30 pm
Fri., July 19	<b>New York Fever</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm	Sat., Sept. 7	<b>Montreal Impact</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm
Fri., July 26	<b>Atlanta Ruckus</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm	Fri., Sept. 13	<b>Colorado Foxes</b>	Frontier Field	7:35 pm





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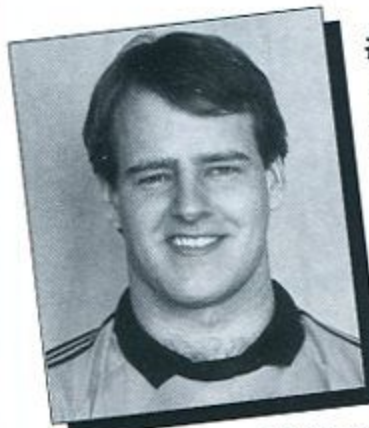
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# ROCHESTER RHINOS

## 1996 PLAYER BIOS



### #0 RETT THOMPSON

GOALKEEPER

6'4" 200

Born: November 17, 1969  
Rochester, NY

Rett Thompson is a Rochester native... He played his high school soccer at Pittsford Sutherland, where he was an

All-County goalkeeper in his junior and senior year...He established a team record for shutouts in one season at Sutherland...Rett played his college soccer at Wisconsin in the Big Ten.



### #2 MARCO RIZI

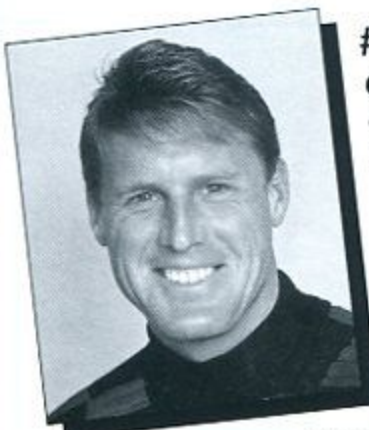
DEFENDER

6'1" 190

Born: September 15, 1968  
Montreal, Quebec

A member of the last two A-League champions - Montreal Impact in 1994 and the Seattle Sounders in 1995...Played one

game for the Buffalo Blizzard of the NPSL last winter before breaking his leg, sidelining him for the rest of the season...Has four seasons of indoor experience, including the last two seasons with the Blizzard...From 1988 to 1992 Marco played for the Montreal Spurs of the outdoor Canadian Soccer League.



### #1 BILLY ANDRACKI

GOALKEEPER

6'0" 185

Born: May 25, 1969  
Prince William, VA

Three years experience in the A-League with Tampa Bay and Atlanta...Led Atlanta to the A-League championship game last

season...In 1992, Andracki was

named the A-League's First Team All-Star goalkeeper when he led Tampa Bay to the A-League championship game...He also captured the league's Rookie-of-the-Year and Goalkeeper-of-the-Year awards and was named *Soccer Digest's* Player-of-the-Year that season...Billy also has extensive indoor experience as well, splitting time between Tampa and Chicago last winter...

Andracki was an NCAA All-American while at Rutgers University, leading the Scarlet Knights to the NCAA championship game his senior season...He was a college roommate of U.S. Olympic Team star Alexi Lalas while at Rutgers. In less than two years, Billy played in the NCAA, A-League and NPSL championship games...last name pronounced an-DRACK-ee.



### #3 TIM ASHE

DEFENDER

6'0" 170

Born: February 7, 1970  
Rochester, NY

A product of the Mavericks youth soccer organization here in Rochester, Tim played his high school soccer at Hilton, where

he was twice a First Team All-County selection and Second Team All-Greater Rochester during his junior and senior seasons...Ashe began his college career at Geneseo State where he was named SUNYAC Player of the Year his sophomore season...Ashe concluded his career at the University of Buffalo...Last summer Tim played for Team Lapine, where he has helped the club to the United States Amateur Cup Finals in Indianapolis.



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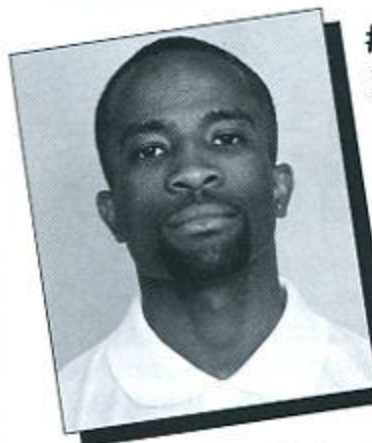


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## ROCHESTER RAGING RHINOS BIOS

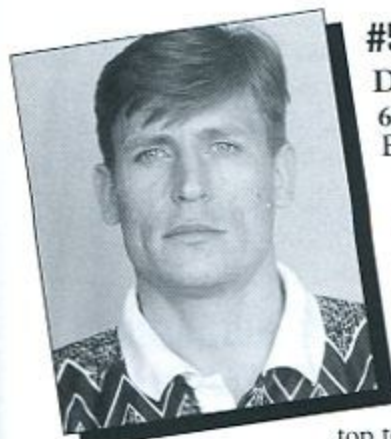


### #4 LEON MINOTT DEFENDER

5'7" 150  
Born: June 19, 1969  
St. Catharine,  
Jamaica

Minott was a member of Team Lapine that reached the U.S. Amateur Cup Finals last summer in Indianapolis...Is one of

many Rhinos with international experience, having played for the Jamaican National Team...A graduate of Roberts Wesleyan College here in Rochester, Leon was a four-year starter at Roberts, achieving All-American honors three times... Minott was named All-Conference and All-New York State his senior season...last name pronounced "min-NOT."



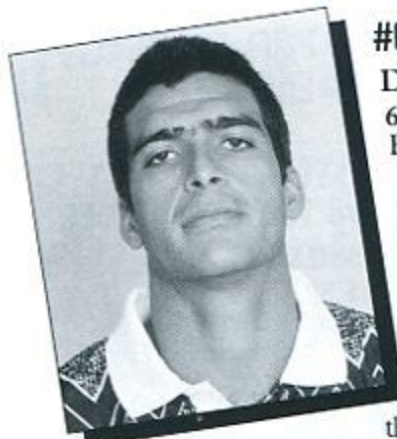
### #5 YURI SMOTRICH DEFENDER

6'2" 180  
Born: June 5, 1962  
Ukraine

Yuri has thirteen years of professional soccer, most with Chernomorets in the Ukrainian First Division, one of the

top teams in the Ukrainian

league...A tough defender who will lend his international experience to the back line...Has played throughout Asia, Africa and Europe during tours with the Chernomorets club...Also played in the Czechoslovakian First Division during his career...Played for the Ukrainian Junior National Team when he was younger...Yuri and his wife Natalie have a young daughter named Katherine.

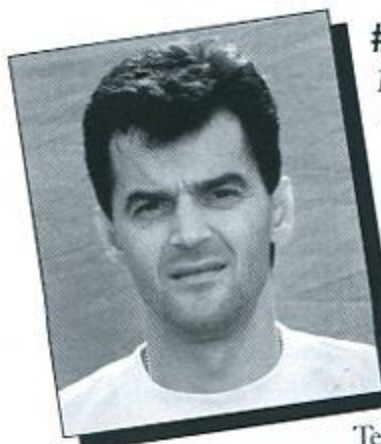


### #6 RENE RIVAS DEFENDER

6'2" 180  
Born: October 18, 1968  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

This is Rene's first team in the United States, expecting to play the sweeper position for Coach Ercoli...Rivas helped S.C. Campomaior capture the Portugal Professional

League championship last season...The year before the club finished in seventh place...Scored the only goal in Botafogo's 1-0 win over Corinthian in the playoff semi-finals of the Brazilian Cup in 1992...A regular with Botafogo for two seasons, one of Brazil's best professional clubs...Has also played for America and Sao Cristovao in the Brazilian Professional League...Played four seasons for Flamengo in the Brazilian Junior League, winning the championship three times...A member of the Brazilian National Junior Team in 1984...Took the 1989-90 season off to graduate from school...last name pronounced "REE-vaas."



### #7 ZORAN KARIC MIDFIELDER

5'9" 160  
Born: August 1, 1961  
Kacarevo, Yugoslavia

A superb scorer, Zoran was second in the NPSL in scoring this season with 182 points... Was also named to the NPSL First All-Star

Team...Helped the Crunch

win the NPSL playoff title in April...Has nine seasons of indoor experience, including the last six and one-half seasons with the Cleveland Crunch...Karic led the NPSL in assists and was a First Team All-Star and Co-MVP of the All-Star game in 1994-95...1993-94 was a banner year for Zoran, as he was named the league's MVP, was a league First Team All-Star and led the circuit in points and assists, still the NPSL's all-time single season records...also was a First Team All-Star selection in 1992-93...Karic was the MISL's scoring champ (39+63=102) in 1991-92 with Cleveland, and he led the circuit in goals with 73 in 1990-91...Began his indoor career in San Diego in 1987-88, playing two and one-half seasons, winning the MISL championship in 1988 and 1989...Starred with international outdoor power Partizan Belgrade in Yugoslavia before heading to the United States...last name pronounced "CARE-itch."





## ROCHESTER RAGING RHINOS BIOS



### #8 TOMMY TANNER

MIDFIELDER

5'8" 150

Born: May 10, 1968  
Syracuse, NY

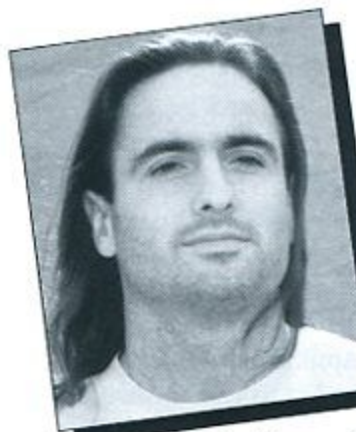
A Central New York product who has played five seasons in the NPSL with the Cleveland Crunch...Finished sixth in team scoring

this past winter in helping

Cleveland to the NPSL championship...Was the MISL's Rookie-of-the-Year during the 1991-92 season...

A two-time Parade Magazine All-American at Syracuse Henninger High School...An All-New York State selection three times during his high school career...

Attended North Carolina State University where he was a two-time All-Atlantic Coast Conference selection... Tanner led the Wolfpack to an NCAA Final Four appearance his senior season.



### #9 DANNY KELLY

MIDFIELDER

5'9" 160

Born: March 7, 1969 -  
Bronx, NY

Scored the Rhinos' first ever regular-season goal in the team's inaugural match against the New York Fever...Played for

Harrisburg of the NPSL this winter, leading the club in scoring with 58 goals and 34 assists, a career best...Danny was named to the NPSL All-Star Team for his performance over the winter...He began his indoor career with Harrisburg in 1991-92...Kelly spent the 1993 season with the San Diego Sockers...A four-year starter at Penn State, Kelly was a Freshman All-American for the Nittney Lions...Played his high school soccer at Clarkstown South High School in Nyack, New York...Currently resides in Harrisburg, PA.



### #10 ANDREW "YOGI" MCKAY

MIDFIELDER

5'8" 160

Born: June 16, 1965  
Rochester, NY

First player signed to a professional contract by the Rhinos...Played last winter with the Buffalo Blizzard, scoring

nine points in 24 games...Has

seven years of professional experience, including four seasons of outdoor play in the A-League...Joined the Orlando Lions of the A-League in 1990 before moving over to the Ft. Lauderdale Strikers from 1991 to 1993... Yogi was second on the Strikers in scoring (6+8=20) when they captured the Northern Division championship... McKay began his indoor career in 1989 with the Dayton Dynamo of the NPSL...Played with Buffalo during the 1993-94 indoor season, took a year off, then rejoined the Blizzard this winter...Played his high school soccer at Greece Arcadia...An All-American at MCC, he continued his college career at Catawba College (NC), where he was a four-year starter and was named to the All-South-Atlantic Conference Team his senior season...Graduated from Catawba with a degree in accounting and business... After college, had a tryout with the Dundee Football Club in Scotland, where he played on their reserve team before pursuing a pro career in the United States...Played for Team Lapine last summer, a Rochester area amateur team that reached the United States Amateur Cup Final in Indianapolis...last name pronounced "mick-EYE."



### #11 KOFI DEBRAH

FORWARD

5'8" 160

Born: August 6, 1971  
Accra, Ghana

One of the top scorers in the Ghanaian Premier League with the club, Goldfields...Kofi is making his first appearance in America

with the Rhinos this season...Despite

his size, he is considered one of the premier finishers in all of African soccer.





# For Your Information...

## *Rhino fan guide to your soccer game night enjoyment*

**CAMERAS:** Fans may bring cameras or camcorders into Frontier Field for their personal use. However, we ask that you do not block anyone else's view of the game while using such photographic or video equipment, or use of flash attachments at any time.

**FAN BEHAVIOR:** Our code of behavior is simple - we would like you to enjoy the game in a manner that permits other fans around you to do the same. If your enjoyment is curtailed by rude behavior of fans near you, please report the problem to ushers or security personnel. If you are unsatisfied with the handling of a particular situation, we want to hear from you. Please call or write our offices, Rochester Raging Rhinos, 333 N. Plymouth Ave., Rochester, N.Y., 14608. The phone number is (716) 454-KICK.

**FIRST AID:** For those requiring medical assistance for any reason, contact your section's usher or security personnel and they will escort you to the Frontier Field first aid station.

**GAME TIMES:** All Rhino home games will begin at 7:35 p.m., except for Sunday games, which begin at 7:05 p.m. The gates to Frontier Field open one hour before game time. Both teams have a 20 minute warm-up session about 40 minutes before each game.

**GROUP TICKETS:** The Rhinos have special discounts available for group and multi-game purchases. Contact the Rhinos Group Sales department at (716) 454-KICK.

**HANDICAPPED SEATING:** Handicapped seating is available at

Frontier Field. Please contact either Frontier Field Ticket Office or the Rhinos office for information and assistance.

**LOST AND FOUND:** Contact the security person near your section and they will escort you to the Frontier Field offices.

**MAILING ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER:** The Rhino offices are located on site at Frontier Field at 333 North Plymouth Ave., Rochester, N.Y., 14608. Our phone number is (716) 454-KICK, and our fax number is (716) 454-5453. Fan mail for individual players and coaches should be sent to them directly at that address.

Fans can also e-mail the Rhinos at [info@rhinosoccer.com](mailto:info@rhinosoccer.com).

**ON THE NET:** The Rhinos are pleased to offer an attractive web site for our online fans. Check out the Rhinos at [www.rhinosoccer.com](http://www.rhinosoccer.com) and learn about the team, players and other interesting items.

**RADIO COVERAGE:** WBBF (AM-950) is the flagship station of the Rhinos Radio Network, which covers all home and away games. WBER (FM-90.5) will also carry all of the Rhinos games in their inaugural season. Don Stevens will be the play-by-play announcer, with Don Lalka providing the color commentary for all home games.

**SOUVENIRS:** Various merchandise items, including hats, t-shirts, golf shirts, sweatshirts and other Rhino gifts can be purchased at souvenir stands around Frontier Field. In addition, souvenir items can be purchased at the Rhino

business offices during regular business hours. The Rhinos also have a merchandise brochure outlining items that can be purchased through the mail. Write or call the team's offices for one.

**COMMUNITY APPEARANCES:** The Rhinos welcome the chance to speak to your group. The team's public relations department schedules appearances by players, members of the front office and the team mascot. Contact the Rhinos public relations department for more information.

**TELEVISION COVERAGE:** Seven of the Rhinos 28 regular season games will be televised live on The Prime Network, which is carried by The Empire Sports Network in the Rochester area. The Prime Network will carry an A-League Game of the Week every Friday night during the summer. Most games will be carried live by the Empire Sports Network, with some games taped delayed.

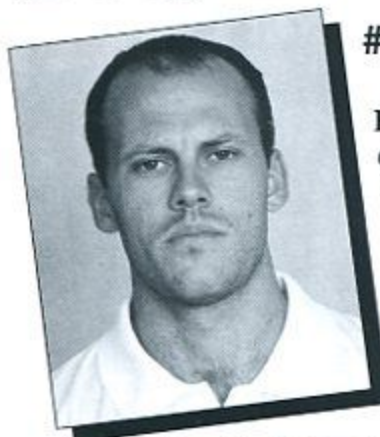
**TICKETS:** Rhinos fans may purchase single-game seats at the Frontier Field Ticket Window, TicketExpress, located at 100 East Ave., the War Memorial Box Office (open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) and all TicketMaster locations. To order by phone, call 222-5000 or 232-1900. Out of town fans can call 1-800-722-3939.

Tickets at Frontier Field are \$15.00 (Premium), \$12.00 (Upper-Center & Lower End), \$10.00 (Upper End) and \$8.00 (Upper Corner). Youth/Senior Citizen tickets are \$7.00 for Premium seating and \$5.00 for all other seating areas in Frontier Field.





## ROCHESTER RAGING RHINOS BIOS



### #12 GUSTAVO ROMANELLO

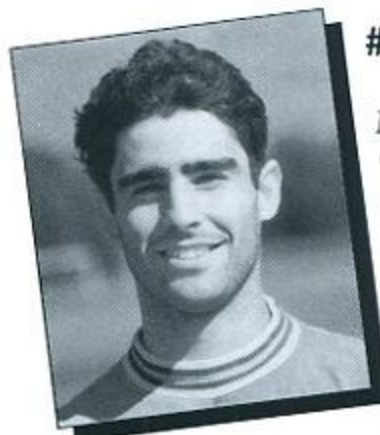
#### FORWARD

6'0" 170

Born: September 11, 1972  
Rosario Santa Fe,  
Argentina

A native of Argentina, Gustavo has played in his home country and in Mexico...He was a member of the

Argentina National Junior Team from 1991 to 1993...In 1993-94 Romanello played for Defensores Belgrano in the Argentinian Second Division...He played for Deportivo Italiano (Second Division) in 1994-95...Last season Gustavo played for Inter de Tijuana in the Mexican First Division.



### #14 GUSTAVO VILLAGRA

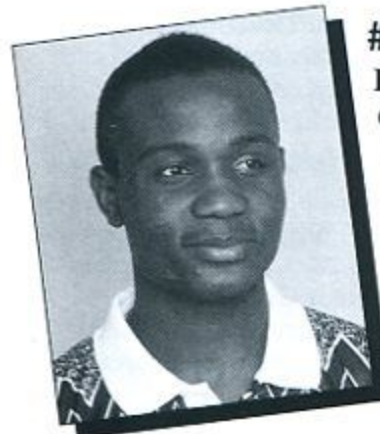
#### MIDFIELDER

6'1" 180

Born: February 13, 1970 -  
S.S. Jujuy, Argentina

Gustavo played for Zuchitepeques in Guatemalan First Division in 1996...He played with Gustavo Romanello for Inter de

Tijuana in the Mexican First Division in 1995-96...He also played with Romanello for Deportivo Italiano in the Argentinian Second Division from 1993 through 1995...He had a brief stop in 1993 with Coquintero (Chile) of the First Division...Gustavo began his career in 1988 in the Argentinian Junior leagues.



### #17 FUSEINI DAUDA

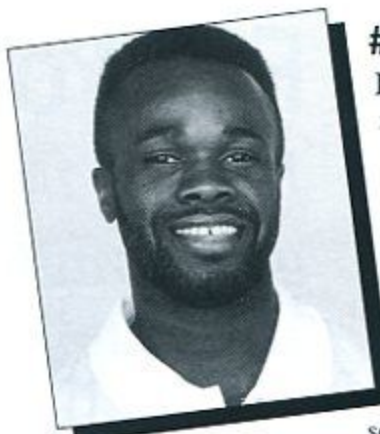
#### FORWARD

6'2" 185

Born: May 29, 1970

Ghana

Will see plenty of action at the Striker position for the Rhinos...Played for Montreal in the CSL last summer...One of the bigger players in the league... Known as (Fu-SEE-nee).



### #15 HOWARD ALLEN

#### FORWARD

5'9" 170

Born: February 17, 1968

Kingston, Jamaica

A four-year starter at Roberts Wesleyan College where he had 42 career goals...Named the team's most valuable player in his junior season after leading the team

in scoring with 20 goals...Was also a NCCAA All-American and All-New York State...A native of Jamaica, Howard was named to the all-college team at the College of Science and Technology for soccer in his hometown... Played in the Empire State Games for the Western New York team...Was a member of Team Lapine that reached the finals of the U.S. Amateur Cup in Indianapolis...Is currently employed as an operations clerk/quality control at Chase-Manhattan Bank.



### #16 CHRIS KENNEL

#### DEFENDER

6'1" 175

Born: August 7, 1969

Rochester, NY

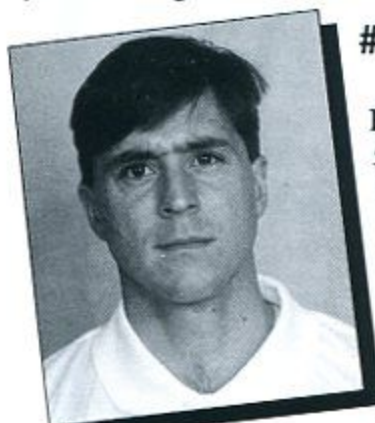
Chris brings two seasons of pro experience back to Rochester after playing a pair of seasons for his new hometown team in Hawaii (USISL)...This Pittsford Mendon scholastic star is a

former *Democrat & Chronicle* Athlete of the Year after his senior season in 1987 where he was a soccer All-American and the Section V Downhill Skiing Champ; Kennell was also the Downhill runner-up at State Championship meet that same season...He was named All-County and All-Greater Rochester after both his junior and senior campaigns...Chris played his college soccer at Cornell where he was team captain in 1992...Majored in government and theatre at the Ivy League institution...He has appeared in national TV commercials for American Express (with Jerry Seinfeld) and Crest...While in Hawaii, Chris started his own business that deals with soccer and athletic wear.





## ROCHESTER RAGING RHINOS BIOS



### #18 CARL HOPFINGER

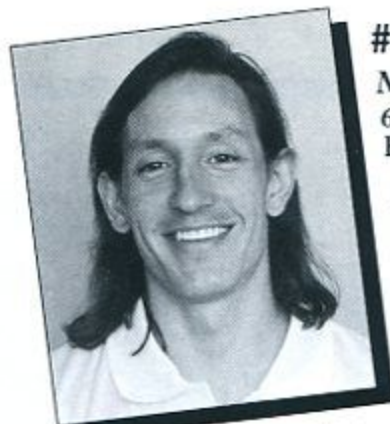
**FORWARD**

5'10" 175

Born: February 4, 1968  
Rochester, NY

Was a high school All-American at Pittsford-Sutherland, leading the team to the New York State championship his senior season in 1986...

A four-year starter at Michigan State, where he was named to the All-Midwest team his senior season...Has played amateur soccer after college with clubs in Michigan and Oregon...Was a member of Team Lapine, the club that went to the finals of the U.S. Amateur Cup in Indianapolis...Spends time with the Pittsford Mustangs soccer club as a youth coach...Sells real estate when not playing for the Rhinos.



### #20 KEN TOMETSKO

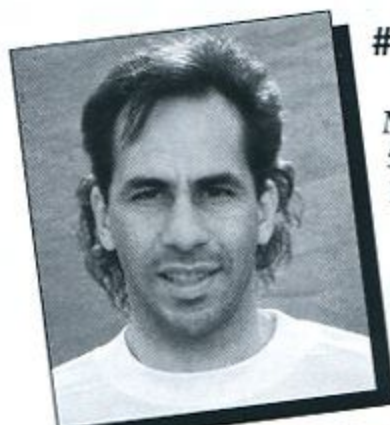
**MIDFIELDER**

6'2" 180

Born: May 9, 1970  
Rochester, NY

Ken will forever be a part of history as he scored the Rhinos first ever goal in the pre-season game against Syracuse University...The Brighton High School graduate was a two-time All-

County selection for the Barons and was also named All-Greater Rochester and All-State his senior season... Ken played his collegiate soccer at Cornell ('93) where he was a four-year letterman and two-time captain...He was twice chosen to the All-Ivy team while playing for the Big Red and concluded his career with Cornell team MVP honors and a place on the Northeast Regional All-American Scholar Athlete team.



### #21 HECTOR MARINARO

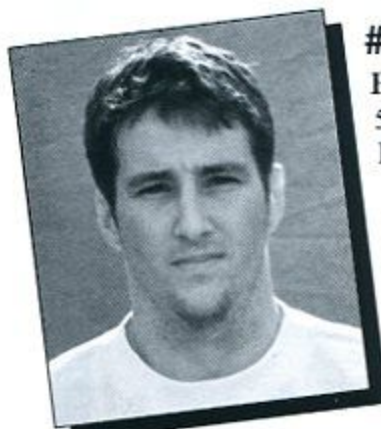
**MIDFIELDER**

5'9" 155

Born: December 6, 1964  
Toronto, Ontario

Hector led the NPSL in scoring this past winter 247 points...The indoor superstar is second on the all-time U.S. Indoor Goal

Scoring list with 686 career goals, only 29 behind Steve Zungel...Marinaro broke the all-time single playoff record in total points (101), total goals (45) and two-point goals (30), leading the Crunch to the NPSL championship...He was named the NPSL's Offensive Player of the Month for November, February and March...Was the NPSL's Most Valuable Player in 1994-95 and was a First Team All-Star after leading the league in scoring with 255 points...Scored the winning goal in the NPSL championship in leading Cleveland to the league title in 1993-94...Was the NPSL MVP in 1992-93...Last season was his seventh in a Crunch uniform...Has played indoor with Minnesota and Los Angeles...His father, Hector, coached in the NASL, CSL and APSL, while brother Rob played at Clemson University and for Chicago and Buffalo in the NPSL... Became a member of the Canadian National Team last summer...last name pronounced "mare-in-AIR-oh."



### #19 DOUG MILLER

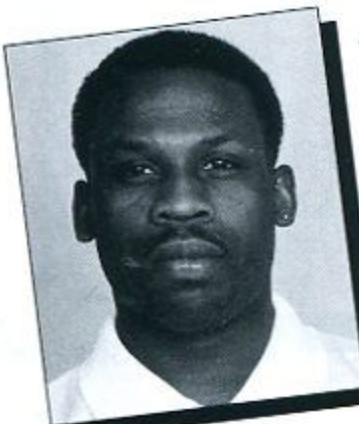
**FORWARD**

5'8" 155

Born: May 5, 1969  
Newark, NJ

Finished third in team scoring this past winter with the Cleveland Crunch of the NPSL, helping the club win the NPSL Championship in six games against the Kansas City Attack... Spent two

seasons in Harrisburg in the NPSL, before being traded to Cleveland during the 1993-94 indoor season...Played in the A-League in 1991 with Maryland...Spent the last two summers with New York of the USISL... That New York club has joined the A-League for this season of play...Miller played his college soccer at Loyola-Baltimore.



### #22 DARRELL STUART

**FORWARD**

5'6" 160

Born: May 16, 1967  
Antigua

Played his college soccer at St. John Fisher College here in Rochester...Was a mem-

ber of Team Lapine that went to the U. S. Amateur Cup finals in Indianapolis last summer...Is a supply clerk at Wegmans.





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BACK COVERED.**



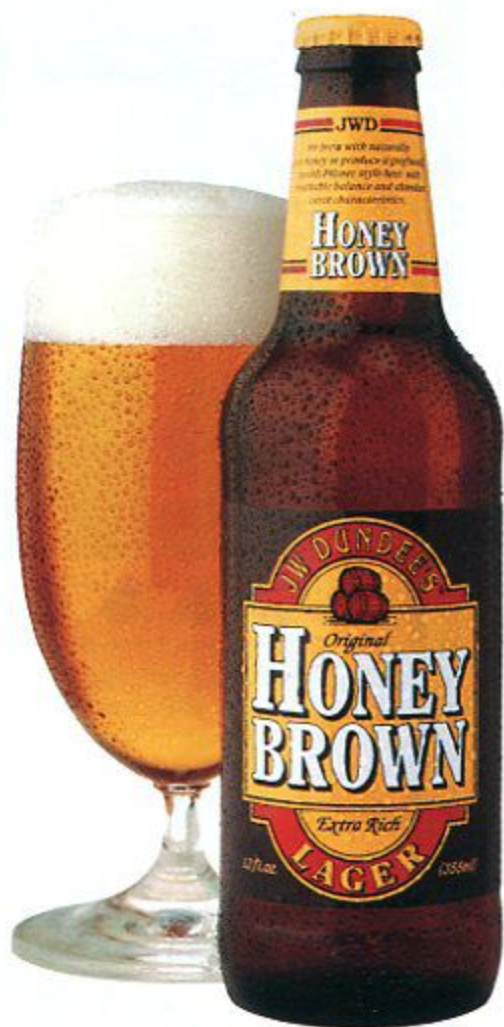
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# SOCCEER

## RULES OF THE GAME

**THE LINE-UP** - The official starting line-up must be submitted one hour before game time, with the starting 11 listed first and then the substitutes. Players include the goalkeeper, the defense (sweeper, stopper, backs, marking back), midfielders and forwards (wing, striker).

**TIME** - The game is 90 minutes total, with two 45 minute halves, running time. The clock begins at 0:00 and climbs to 90:00. After any scored goal the referee is to stop the time immediately and restart the time on the ensuing kick-off. If the regulation game time ends in a tie, a winner is determined by a shoot-out.

**SHOOT-OUT** - To break a tie at the end of regulation play, each side takes five attempts in a one-on-one confrontation between a shooter and a goalkeeper. The shooter begins with the ball at the 30-yard line and the goalkeeper starts at his goal line. After the referee blows his whistle, the shooter has five seconds to score on the goalie. Unlike a penalty kick, a shooter may advance the ball forward before shooting and a goalkeeper can move off his goal line. After five attempts if the result is still a tie, the shoot-out goes into sudden death. Meaning, that the next team to score and to stop their opponent from matching their goal wins.

**SUBSTITUTIONS** - A team is allowed to substitute three field players and one goalkeeper during the game. Once a player has been substituted, he may not return to the game. If a player is injured and his team has used all three of their substitutions, he cannot be replaced with a substitute and the team must play a man down the rest of the game.

**FOULS** - Each time a player is charged with a violation of the Laws of the Game, resulting in either a direct or indirect free kick awarded to the opposing team, he shall be charged with a foul. Cautions (yellow cards) and ejections (red cards) are recorded as fouls. At the referees discretion, he may elect not to call a foul if the receiving team has an advantage on the play.

### INDIRECT AND DIRECT

**FREE KICKS** - A direct free kick is awarded for a foul such as pushing, holding, or tripping. An indirect free kick is awarded for infractions such as

offsides, obstruction, and dangerous play. On a direct kick a player is allowed to score, however on an indirect kick the ball must be touched by another player before it crosses the goal line. A referee signals when a kick is indirect by raising his hand straight up until the ball makes contact with another player.

**OFFSIDES** - Offsides occurs when a player without the ball is between the last defender and the opposition goal. The play is whistled dead when offsides occurs.

Offsides is not considered a foul, but is a team statistic. Calling offsides is primarily the responsibility of the referees assistants (linesmen). This call is subject to the referees discretion more than any other call in soccer.



**SHOTS** - A shot is defined as any attempt which is taken clearly with the intent to score and is directed so that it enters the goal; could have entered the goal if it had not been prevented from doing so; has traveled past the goal in close proximity to the goal if it had not been prevented from doing so. A shot can be generated by any body part other

than the hand or arm. A cross or centering pass is not a shot. A goalkeeper who intercepts a cross is not credited with a save.

**GOALS** - A goal is scored when the whole ball has passed over the whole of the goal line, between the goal posts and under the crossbar, provided it has not been thrown, carried or intentionally propelled by hand or arm, by a player of the attacking team, except in the case of the goalkeeper, who is in his own penalty area. When a player propels the ball into his own team's goal, regardless of the original intent (back pass, bad clearance), a goal is awarded to the opposing team. The goal is not credited to an individual, it is recorded as an "own goal". If a shot from an attacking player is deflected or mishandled into the goal by the goalkeeper or deflected by a defender, the attacking player is awarded the goal.

**ASSISTS** - The player whose pass leads directly to the scoring of a goal shall be credited with an assist. If a goal is scored after a series of uninterrupted passes by the attacking team, the next-to-last pass is the assist. Only one assist shall be awarded per goal scored.







# Follow the herd

Turn to the *Democrat and Chronicle* for comprehensive coverage of the Rochester Raging Rhinos soccer team as they prepare to trample opponents in their premiere season!

In addition to complete newspaper coverage, you can also follow the herd online in the *D&C/T-U Digital Edition* on the World Wide Web.

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# off-sides

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# Marinaro Sweeps Back into The Outdoor Game

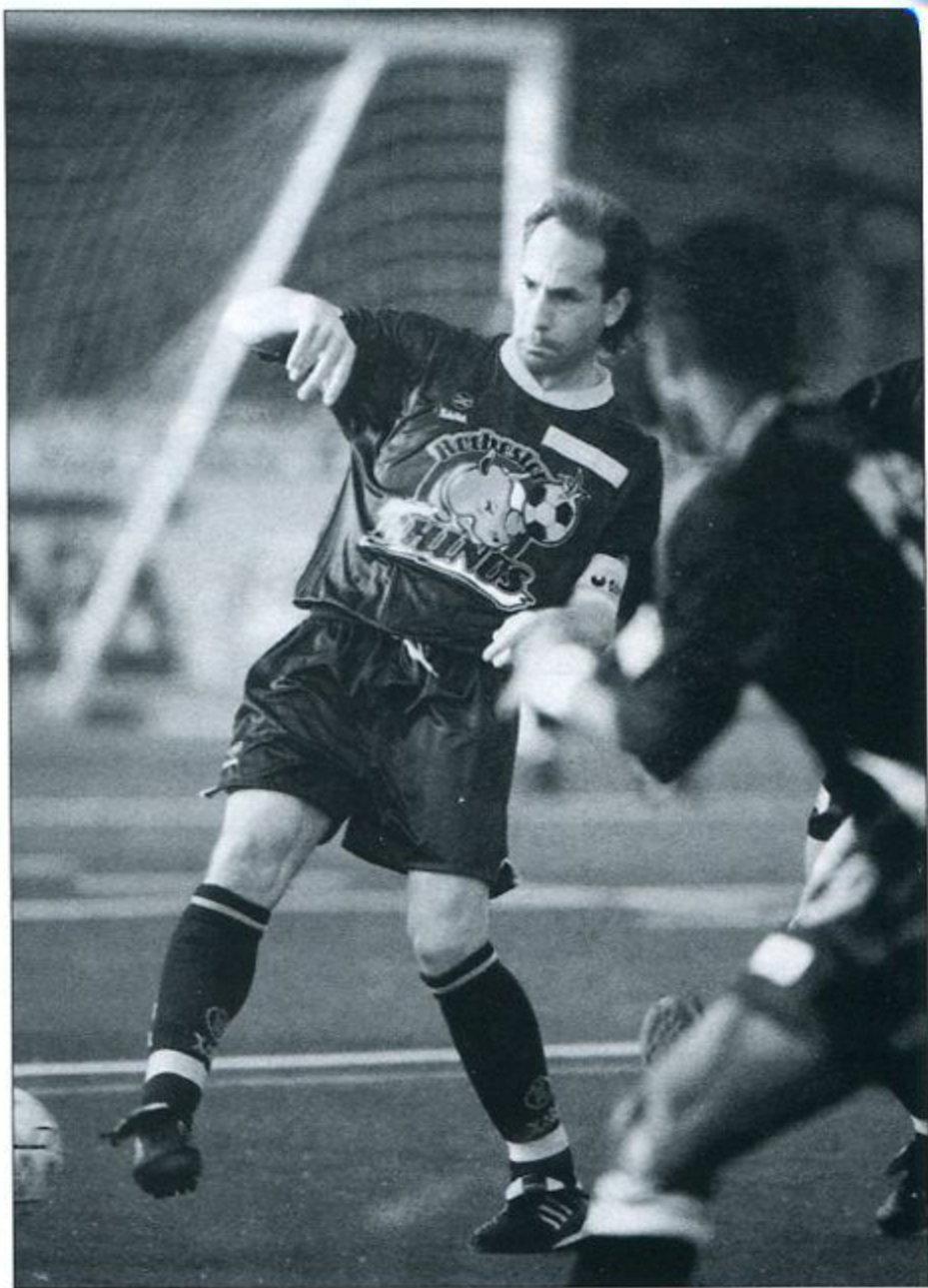
## *Indoor Legend Leads Rhinos Defense*

*By Justin Raj*

Rhinos' team captain, Hector Marinaro, is no stranger to adversity. Earlier this year, he and his Cleveland Crunch teammates were down two games to none against the Kansas City Attack in the indoor National Professional Soccer League's championship series. Marinaro saw his team's regular season success, and his league scoring title, going to waste. All of the Crunch's achievements that season were going to be meaningless statistics if they couldn't find a way to turn the series around and win the championship.

Of course, the burden of doing so fell onto Marinaro's back. Granted, he was surrounded by arguably one of the most talented rosters in professional soccer in this country, indoor or outdoor. However, when you are the second all-time leader on the United States Indoor Soccer scoring list and have played for 13 seasons, your fans, coaches and teammates look to you to bring them back. Hector Marinaro knew that was the case, and he went to work.

The Rhinos' sweeper led Cleveland to four straight victories over the Attack and won the NPSL championship. So when he sees the faces of his teammates in Rochester, Hector is more than familiar with their hungry, desperate look. Regardless of the fact that it is their first season,



*Marinaro's experience makes him a natural leader on the backline for the Rhinos.*

Marinaro knows that nothing less than a championship will satisfy his teammates, the fans, and himself. However, he knows that his role with the Raging Rhinos is a

different one than in Cleveland.

His goal-scoring prowess is what has made him an indoor legend, yet his role in Rochester is that of a defender. "In Cleveland,



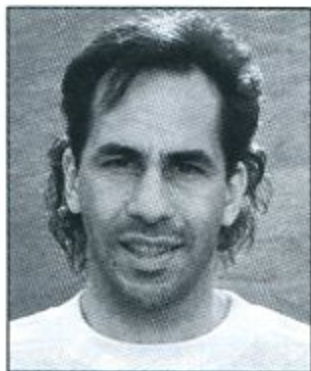
I am paid to put the ball into the back of the net," remarked Marinaro, discussing his different roles, "Here, my job is to stop opponents from scoring goals. So I have to approach the game from a completely different perspective, and let my teammates concentrate on scoring."

Hector's Cleveland teammates who have joined him with the Rhinos are the ones who have had the scoring burden placed on them. Forwards Zoran Karic and Doug Miller, along with midfielder Tommy Tanner, are a trio of talented attackers whose one-on-one skills have helped them find the goal numerous times in their careers. Marinaro credits them for much of the Crunch's accomplishments and sees them as the key to a Raging Rhinos championship.

"Doug is dangerous because of his speed, he can run onto almost any ball. If he had been a little more lucky so far this season he could have four or five goals already," said Marinaro, about his Crunch teammates with the Rhinos. "Tommy is the hardest worker I know. He is always up and down the field and gives a 110 percent. Zoran is simply the best one-on-one player I have ever stepped onto the field with. When the ball is at his feet, he can go by any defender he wants."

Along with his current Cleveland Crunch teammates, Marinaro has played in the past with Rochester goalkeeper Billy Andracki, who was also with Cleveland for two years before moving on to Tampa Bay. Hector

believes that his past playing experience with Andracki has been invaluable in building the Raging Rhinos defense.



"Communication between Billy and myself is much easier because we know each other. The familiarity allows us to adjust to situations in games much more quickly than would happen otherwise," stated Marinaro.

He also credits the hard work of his teammates on the back line, Leon Minott and Yuri Smotrich, for the team's success defensively. "The first couple of games it was hard because Yuri doesn't speak any English. But, as time has gone on we have found ways to communicate and we have improved noticeably," remarked Marinaro. "Leon is an extremely tough and determined player. His tenacity allows him to play bigger than his size."

Hector firmly believes that with his teammates which have joined

him from Cleveland and with the new faces he has met here in Rochester, the Rhinos will overcome the adversity they have faced as an expansion team and will contend for the A-League title.

"I don't think that there is a team that we have faced so far that we couldn't have beaten," said Marinaro, regarding the rest of the A-League, "With a few wins we'll be right there with them come the end of the season."

And, with Marinaro's past accomplishments it's hard to doubt him.



*Hector Marinaro has taken the ball and run with it since being named captain of the Rhinos.*





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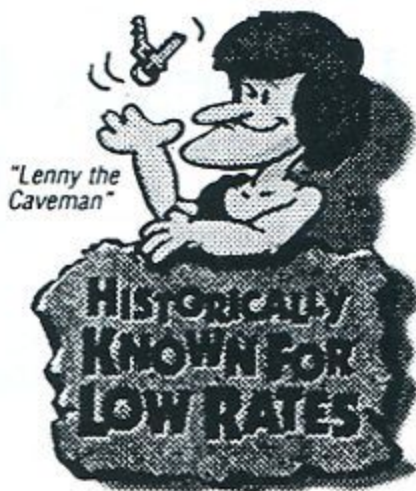
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BY T. NICHOLS

The Rochester Raging Rhinos may be new in town, but the animal we get our name from is millions of years old. With just five species existing on earth, the rhinoceros is an endangered animal threatened with extinction.

Able to adapt well in nature, these tough-skinned creatures live in Africa and Asia. They feed on grasses in the plains or in swamps. The biggest is the White Rhino, weighing in at 7,000 pounds. This grazer has the longest horns, over six feet. The Black Rhino has two horns and can run at 35 m.p.h., but his eyesight is terrible and charges often miss. When you see a rhino you can appreciate the size and power. The Buffalo Zoo has one, Henry, a Greater One-Horned Rhino. Hank's species lives

in India and Nepal and loves the water.

Rhinos are fighting a war with human poachers. Killed for their valuable horn, 90% of the earth's rhinos have disappeared since 1970. Used as medicine and as dagger handles, the rhino horn, made of keratin just like your fingernails, is illegally traded. The few wild rhinos that survive live in National Parks and Sanctuaries. The Rhino Trust listed below funds sanctuaries that protect rare rhinoceros in Kenya and Java.

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# Leon Minott Plays a Role On and Off the Field

*Rhino Defender Adds Local Flavor*

*By Justin Roj*

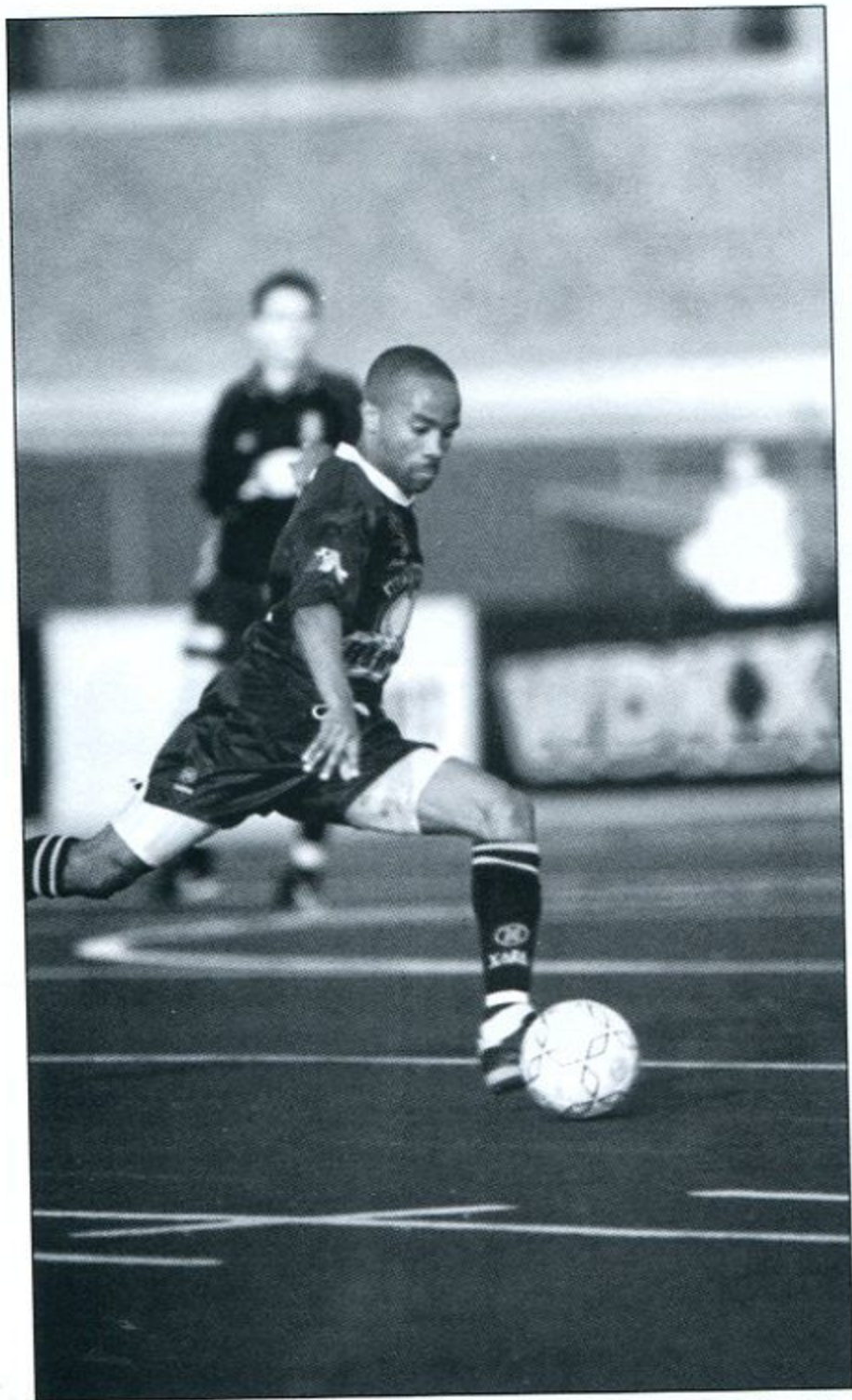
When talking with Rhinos defender Leon Minott you sense immediately that he is not your stereotypical professional athlete. There is calmness around him, even though he and his team are in the midst of whirlwind.

Since the Rochester Raging Rhinos kicked off their first season in the A-League, they have struggled to find their identity, at times brilliant in their play, while other times uninspired. Leon Minott is a man who knows firmly who he is and what is important to him. Dedicated to his family and his faith, Minott knows that soccer, while important, is just one piece of a much larger picture.

Born in Spanishtown, Jamaica, Leon grew up with five brothers and four sisters. Yet, he quickly became part of an even larger extended family of children who played soccer in the field across the street from his house.

"When I was two years old, the older kids used to come get me to play soccer before I could even kick the ball," said Minott, about his first experiences with the game he would grow to love. Leon's early introduction to the game fostered a passion for it. He would play almost daily as a youth.

While attending high school, Leon's daily battles with his friends across the street from his house would pay off. "I attended one of the top high schools both academically and athletically in the entire



*Although small in size, Leon Minott plays big on the field in helping the Rhinos keep the ball out of their net.*



country. Because of this I gained a lot of exposure as a player on a national level," remarked Minott. That exposure turned into an offer to play for Jamaica's Junior National Team and a spot on Boystown, one of the country's top club teams.

With both squads, Leon made the most of his opportunities. He led Boystown to every possible championship in Jamaica in 1989, and in doing so he was named MVP of the league. His success at home did not go unnoticed, Leon was recruited by major colleges and universities across America, including Syracuse and Howard University. Yet, he chose Roberts Wesleyan College here in Rochester.

"At the time I was choosing a college, I did not know the difference between Division One, Two, or Three. So when I chose Roberts it was not a decision based on soccer, because if soccer was my priority I would not have gone to college. I decided to go to college to get my degree, so I could get a good job to help my family," stated Leon.

Minott considers Roberts Wesleyan a rewarding experience. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting and met his wife,

Beth, while at the school. And, it is these two things that have allowed Leon to define himself outside of the game of soccer and to find that identity for which his team is still searching.

His job with a local accounting firm in Henrietta has allowed him to work with BOCES, where he is gotten an opportunity to give back to kids what was given to him by older friends back in Jamaica so

long ago. As a player, Leon credits his toughness to always being a little bit smaller and younger and having to fight harder to win balls away from his opponents. As a person, he credits his achievements to God and those who taught him how to succeed in life outside of soccer.

"I have been given so much, I just want to give back to kids what was given to me. It so important for children, especially African-American children, to have good role models. For some of them their only role models are people in gangs, driving fancy cars and wearing fancy clothes. Driving fancy cars and wearing fancy clothes are fine, I just want to show kids there is a better way to get them," he added.

Minott's three children are a constant reminder of the role he must play. "My son, Keanen, who is four, is a soccer player himself. If he sees me wearing a certain

spot on the Rhinos gives him, Leon believes that by helping kids on the field, he can better their lives off of it.

"You see young kids playing soccer and they are so talented," stated Leon, regarding his commitment to youth, "But as they grow older they seem to lose their talent and love of the game. I want to eventually coach and help kids maintain their focus

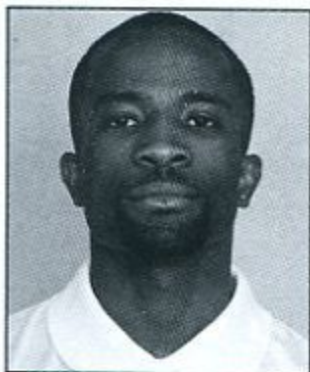
on the game. I believe that they can take the hard work on the field and apply it to other parts of their life."

Religion is also a large part of Leon's life. He credits his faith for his success both on the field and off. "I can not stress enough the role God plays in my life. He has given me the ability to achieve all that I have achieved," said Leon.

Minott is confident that the Rhinos will be able to find their identity this season, just as

he as found his own. "I look ahead to the rest of the season and I look at the guys around me and the other teams in the league, and I'm excited.

We have struggled at times to get the chemistry that we need, but it is a learning experience. In back, Hector (Marinero), Yuri (Smotrich), and I have worked out many of our problems and it has showed as we have improved every match. It just a matter of time before we come into our own."



---

*"I have been given so much, I just want to give back to kids what was given to me..."*

---

kind of shoe, he wants it. It worries me sometimes, like it does for all parents. But, it also reminds me that I have to be a role model and carry myself properly because my kids as well as other kids look up to me," said Leon.

Soccer, he believes, is not only a way to express himself and to support his family, but his opportunity to be a role model as well. Along with the recognition his



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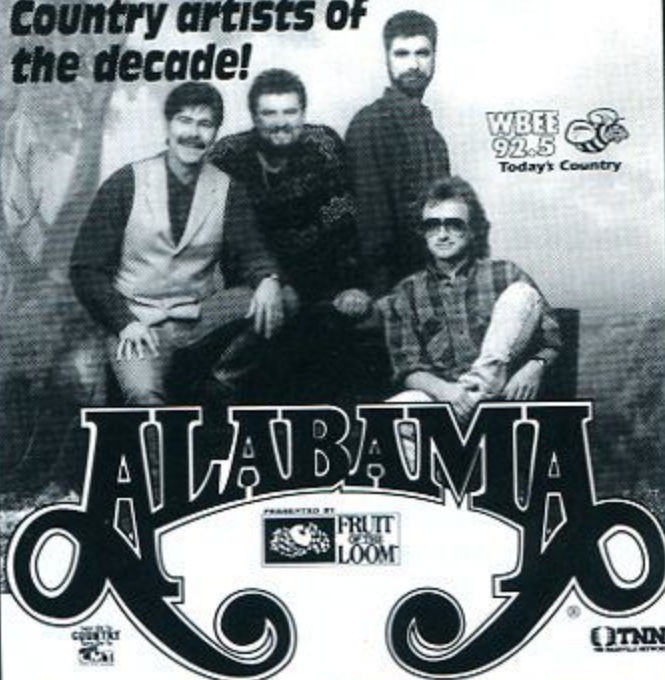
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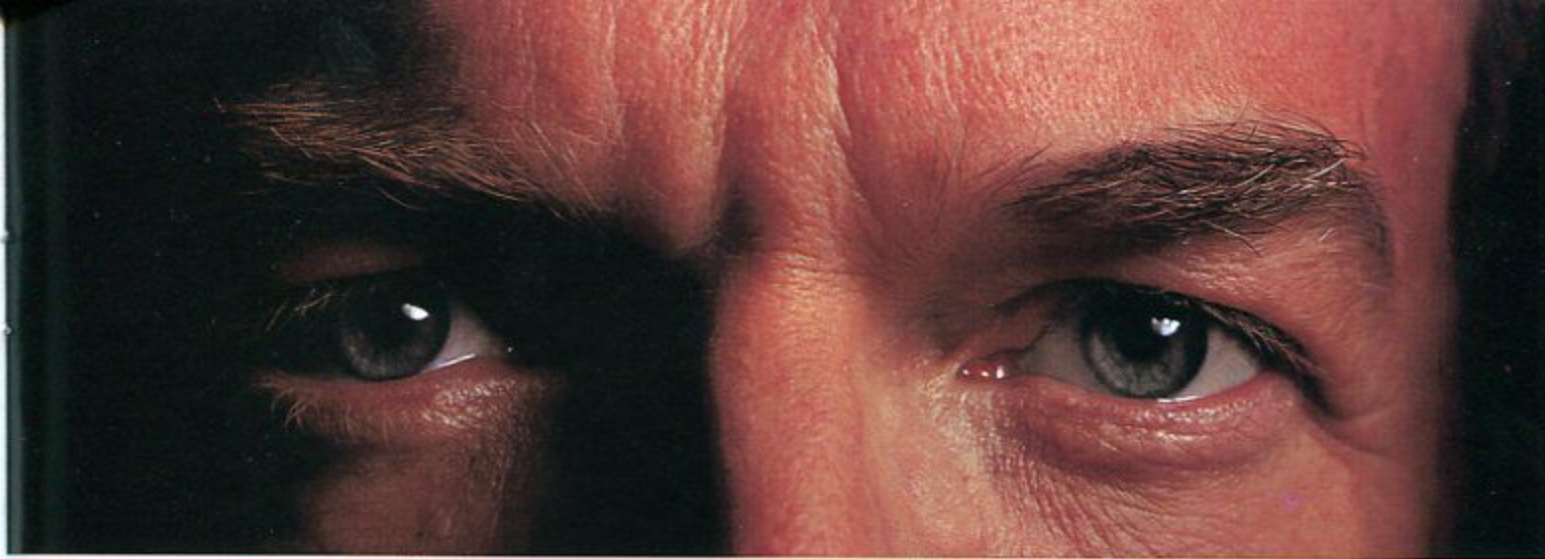
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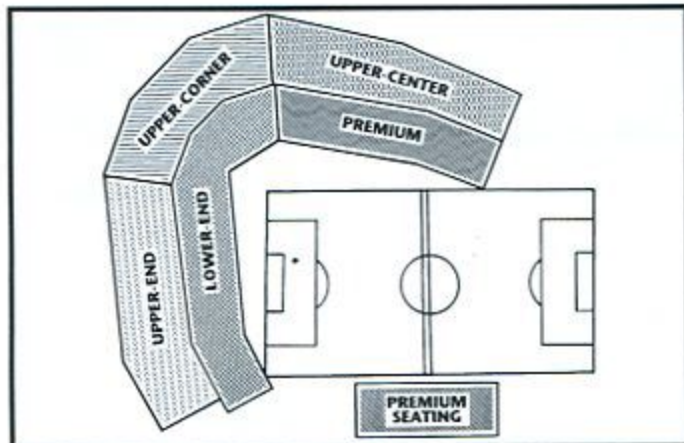




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# PHOTO GALLERY

By James T. Lathrop



Forward Danny Kelly scores the first-ever Rhino goal against the New York Fever in a 1-1 shootout loss on May 10, 1996 at Fauver Stadium. Kelly's right-footed blast from 12 yards out will forever be etched in the Rhinos history books.



Rochester native Yogi McKay was the first player signed by the Rhinos, and he has quickly become a fan favorite with his aggressive play on the field and enthusiasm for the game of soccer off the field.



Midfielder Tommy Tanner battles a Montreal player for the ball in an early season contest against the Impact.



The traditional starting 11 team photo before the Rhinos first regular season contest against the New York Fever. Can you name the starters?





The Rhinos get together for a little pep talk before the kick-off on opening night.



Leon Minott executes a perfect sliding tackle as he clears the ball away from an attacking New York Fever player.



Ghana native Kofi Debrah joined the Rhinos four games into the season and produced a goal in his first game with Rochester in their 3-2 win over Vancouver on June 21.



Rhinos defenders Yuri Smotrich (left) and Hector Marinaro sandwich a Montreal player as they clear the ball away from the Rochester net.



Fuseini Dauda dribbles the ball past a Montreal defender on the turf at the University of Rochester's Faiver Stadium.



Rhinos youth coordinator Pat Grow presents a soccer ball to a young fan at the ABC Head Start Fun Day at St. Stanislaus in mid-June.





By Mike Latona

Aside from some bundled-up athletes on the soccer field and a few curious students craning their necks as they walked by, the University of Rochester's Fauver Stadium was completely deserted.

Cold vapor shot out of the soccer players' mouths as they ran through their drills. Light snow had fallen earlier that late-April day, making it hard to believe that the team's season opener was less than two weeks away.

At that point, the darkly tanned Billy Andracki may have been wondering exactly what he'd gotten himself into. For someone whose previous outdoor professional soccer career was spent in Georgia and Florida, he could sum up this frigid spring weather in one word.

Yuck.

"This is crazy," the Raging Rhinos' goalie said in disbelief. "When I first got here (in early April), we were running in rain and snow. Every day you wake up and say, 'It's going to be nice today,' and every day it's not."

Weather aside, however, Andracki is anything but a complainer. In fact, the 6-ft., 185-pound goalie gets as excited as a kid on Christmas morning when discussing the first-year Rhinos' prospects for success.

"After all is said and done, this team can compete for, and win, the

# Ready for Success!

## Seasoned goalie provides winning attitude for Rhinos

A-League," Andracki said. "Anything less would be a letdown."

Andracki's own abilities lend credibility to his prediction. As he begins his fifth year in professional soccer, the 27-year-old Andracki brings a diversified list of experience to the Rhinos.

Andracki, a native of Prince William, Va., was an NCAA All-American at Rutgers University in his senior season of 1992. That year he led his team to the Division I national final, and made a heroic effort in the championship game against UCLA. Andracki held the Bruins scoreless through regulation and overtime, but the Scarlet Knights came up short in a tie-breaking shootout and were defeated 1-0.

A similar experience greeted Andracki in his rookie pro season with the Tampa Bay Rowdies of the American Professional Soccer League. Though he only gave up one goal in the A-League title contest against Colorado, that was the game's only score in a 1-0 loss. Andracki finished his sparkling rookie campaign with a 1.55 goals-against average and five shutouts to net the A-League's 1992 Rookie of the Year and Goalie of the Year honors. In addition, *Soccer Digest* voted him Player of the Year.

Andracki spent one more year in Tampa before moving to Atlanta for the 1994 and 1995 outdoor seasons. He also owns four seasons of indoor experience, playing three years with Cleveland of the National Professional Soccer League before switching to Tampa Bay this past winter.

It was indoors that Andracki finally achieved his elusive championship: he served as backup goalie for the 1992-93 Cleveland team that captured the

NPSL crown. Andracki's playing rights were recently traded to Chicago, where he plans to play in the winter of 1996-97.

In the meantime, Andracki will be an integral part of the Rhinos' defense – not only with his skills, but also with his awareness of A-League opponents.

"I'll know probably 90 percent of the guys on the other teams," he remarked. "I'll know their strengths and weaknesses, and definitely give my two cents' worth – who's going to take free kicks; how they're going to do corner kicks."

Good team chemistry further fuels Andracki's optimism about the Rhinos. "It's a great bunch of guys; everybody gets along really well. Some teams jell and some don't, but these guys are soccer-knowledgeable and they're personable, too," he said. "Everybody's ready to go. There's a lot of excitement."

An additional cause for enthusiasm is the Rhinos' scheduled move in mid-July to Frontier Field. Andracki, who can view the new facility from his downtown Rochester apartment, reports that Frontier is a perfect soccer fit for a city of this size.

"When I was playing in Tampa Stadium, that was a 70,000-seat place with 4,000-5,000 people in the stands. It seemed like there were two people out there," he remarked. "But this stadium should provide a real soccer atmosphere."

Finally, Andracki noted, he senses the general hoopla over the Rhinos' arrival in a city that has gone without pro soccer for more than a decade.

"In Tampa, we pretty much fell off the front page of the sports section. But this area, in the little time I've been here, has given the most



coverage to soccer that I've seen," he said. "All these TV cameras are out to the practices. And, I think this city's dying for a championship."

Andracki hopes to return to Rochester beyond this season, saying he'd love to stay an extended period. Yet in the life of a soccer player, he also knows it's pretty hard to plan far ahead.

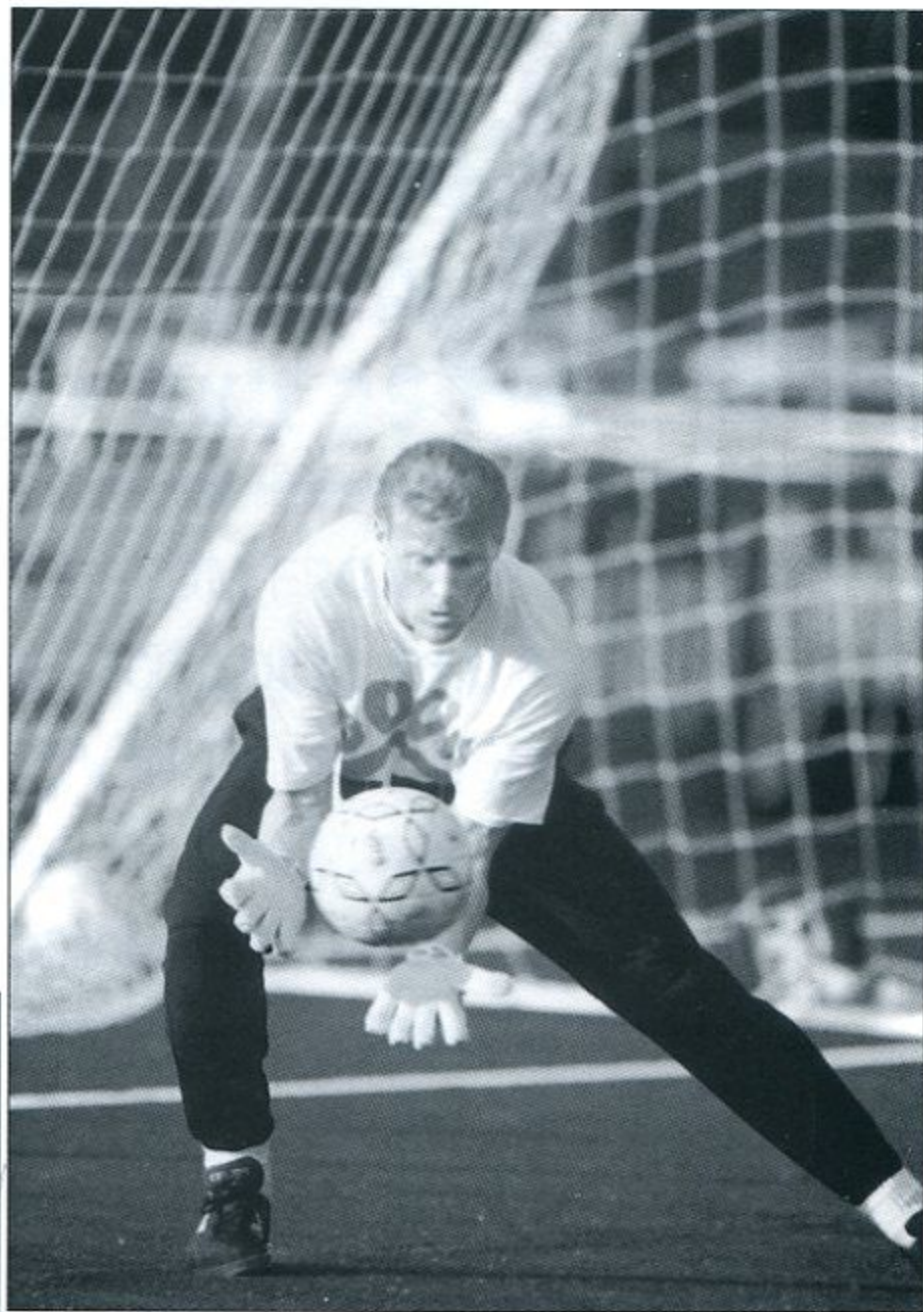
"I've been away from home ever since I was 17 years old. Every six months you're beginning a new set of adventures," Andracki said. "I can tell you how to get from Point A to Point B in so many cities."

He added that this nomadic existence has lost some of its appeal in recent years. "At the beginning of my playing career I wasn't too unhappy with the lifestyle; it wasn't too much of a hassle. I could live out of my car and hop from city to city every six months," he said. "Now, as you get older, you want to settle down. You want to have, if not a wife and a family, a dog or puppy – but I can't even have that. You're really a drifter. My parents live in Orlando now, and when I stay with them that's the closest thing I have to a home."

However, he added that the Rhinos management has made him feel very much at home.

"Of all the teams I've played for, this is the best in terms of treating you as a professional," he remarked. "Chris (Economides) and Pat (Ercoli) are more personal and more up-front than any general manager or coach I've ever dealt with. And in this sport, I know so many guys who go to teams and when paycheck time comes, there's no paycheck."

*"Of all the teams I've played for, this is the best in terms of treating you as a professional..."*



Andracki has no plans to scale back his playing schedule any time soon, so a return to Rochester next summer is a distinct possibility. And, after a solid winter in Tampa Bay that saw rise to the No. 1 goalie status for the first time with any indoor team, Andracki is on a big roll.

"It doesn't always show up in the

goals-against average, but right now my game is very good. I feel as comfortable as I have in a while, and I haven't really begun to touch the goals I've set. There are still many plateaus I want to reach."

At this point, those plateaus are all soccer-related. Andracki hopes to attain his bachelor's degree in finance over the next couple of years – he's 12 credits short – but for now, his superior athletic skills will provide the bulk of his income. "I love to play and it's my living," he concluded.





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# The New Pro Sports Team in Town

## *Rhinos Emerge from the Jungle*

It started as a casual meeting between two American Hockey League owners and has subsequently turned into an all-out sports happening this summer in the city of Rochester. *Rhinomania* has arrived in town, and has taken the area by storm in this soccer-rich community.

It didn't take long for Rochester Americans Hockey President and CEO Steve Donner to convince Providence Bruins Co-owner Frank DuRoss that a professional soccer team would be successful in this area. Rochester has a proud soccer tradition, one that dates back to the mid-1960's with the Rochester Lancers of the NASL and continued with the Rochester Flash in the early 1980's. The area supports over 25,000 youths that play in various organizations around the country.

Rochester has always been able to provide contending teams in the professional ranks, an area that is admittedly not a major metropolitan city, but one that has a proud tradition of championship teams, (from the Amerks Calder Cups to the Red Wings Governor's Cup trophies). The Rochester Knighthawks lacrosse team finished their second season of play in the MLL with their second trip to the playoffs. The Lancers captured the NASL title in 1970 and over 25 years later, the Rhinos hope to bring another pro soccer championship crown to this city.

The unique Rhinos ownership group combines the financial, business and hockey ownership experience of DuRoss, the fifteen years of sports marketing and management of Donner (hockey and lacrosse) and the soccer background of Chris Economides. Economides, a native of Rochester, owned the Kansas City Attack of the NPSL indoor professional league from 1991 to 1993, bringing a championship to the city in 1992-93. As general manager, Economides will assemble a team of players who combine world-class experience with a local flavor of the area's best soccer players.

The Rhinos have a 28-game regular season schedule, 14 home and 14 away. One exhibition contest against a world-class European club will be held over the summer, with other exhibition games to be scheduled as the season progresses. Rochester will play their first four home games at the University of Rochester's Fauver Stadium while Frontier Field is completed. The downtown multi-purpose stadium located on the corner of North Plymouth Avenue and Platt Street will feature 14,000 seats for soccer, 20 suites for corporate use, a picnic and party area during games and a

terrific view of the skyline of downtown Rochester. The Rhinos will debut at Frontier Field on July 12, the first-ever sporting event to be held in the stadium.

So how does a northern city, well-known for its beautiful summers, but better known for its brutal winters, boast a nickname of a rhinoceros for its soccer team? It's all in the image, you see. The "Raging Rhino" was selected by a name-the-team contest through Gannett Rochester newspapers with over 1,500 entries collected and 500 different names suggested. Narrowed to a list of ten names, a celebrity panel, consisting of Gannett sports columnist Bob Matthews, WROC TV's Wanda Miller, WHEC TV's Rich Funke, former Lancers star Carlos Meditereri and Penfield high school coach John Butterworth chose four names to submit to Rhino management, which included Rhinos, Rampage, Ravens and Roccors.

Realizing the character and marketing possibilities of the Rhino, the team selected an animal best known for its tenacious and tough identity. "Raging" was added as a third option for the franchise name, a subtle way of telling the public that this team will not be taken for granted on the field. The Rhinos logo, a caricature of a determined rhinoceros with a soccer ball stuck on its horn, was a collaboration of ideas produced by Neil Stein of Stein Design and Bill Steinmiller of Steinmiller Design. Already a hot merchandise item around the country, Rhinowear is available in local stores or at Rhino home games.

By early March, the team had management and staff, a coach, team colors, a logo and a nickname. Now it needed players. General Manager Economides and Head Coach Pat Ercoli set out to shape a team that was an offensive power—and promptly signed five defensive players. Goalkeeper Bill Andracki led the Atlanta Ruckus to the A-League championship game last season, while sweeper Rene Rivas of Brazil won a championship with S.C. Campomaor in Portugal. Adding defender Marco Rizi from the Buffalo Blizzard indoor league along with local products Tim Ashe and Leon Minott make the Rhinos a tough line of defense.

Rochester native Andrew "Yogi" McKay, a product of Greece Arcadia high school,

will head a group of midfielders with plenty of experience. McKay played last winter with the Blizzard in Buffalo and will team with fellow indoor players Tommy Tanner (Cleveland) and Danny Kelly (Harrisburg) to strengthen the midfield position for Coach Ercoli.

Getting back to the explosive offense, it took awhile for management to supply gas to the attack, but their patience has been rewarded. The Rhinos signed forward Zoran Karic, a perennial all-star and leading scorer for the Cleveland Crunch. Cleveland teammate and winger Doug Miller was also added, along with St. John Fisher grad Darrell Stuart (a native of Jamaica) and Carl Hopfinger. Expected to join the club in June is Kofi Debra, one of Ghana's brightest young stars.

Ercoli, along with Assistant Coach Frank Odoi, began training camp in early April. Teammates on the Lancers in the late 1970's, Ercoli and Odoi promise a club that is exciting, hardworking and fun to watch. Ercoli expects the first-year franchise to be competitive and challenge the league leaders.

The Rhinos will broadcast all games, home and away, on WBBF AM-950 and WBER FM-90.5. Don Stevens, the Voice of the Amerks, will slide behind the microphone to call all of the play-by-play action. Rochester will also be seen on television this season, coast-to-coast, as Prime Network will carry an A-League Game of the Week every Friday night during the summer. The Rhinos will be featured seven times, including their home opener on May 10 and their July 12 debut at Frontier Field. Locally, the Empire Sports Network will carry the Prime/A-League schedule, either live or on a tape-delayed basis.

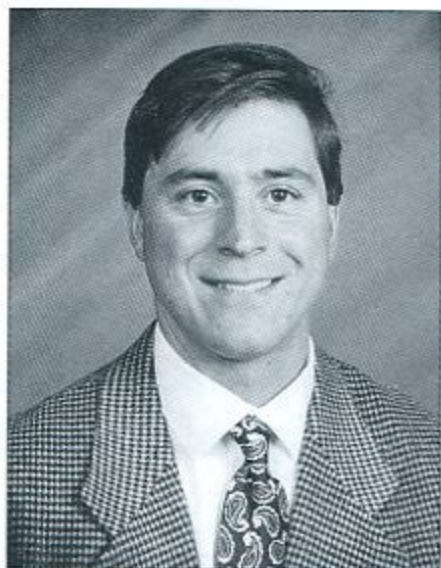
Major League soccer is back in Rochester, and the Raging Rhinos will charge onto the scene with exciting soccer action.



Rhinos Head Coach Pat Ercoli (center) chats with Leon Minott (left) and Rene Rivas (right) at the Rhino logo induction reception.



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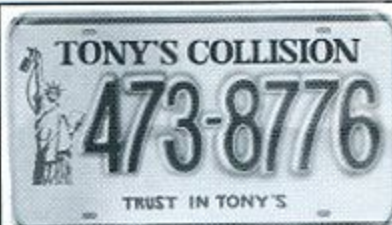
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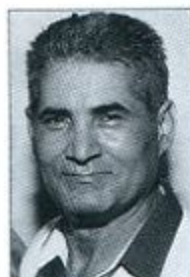
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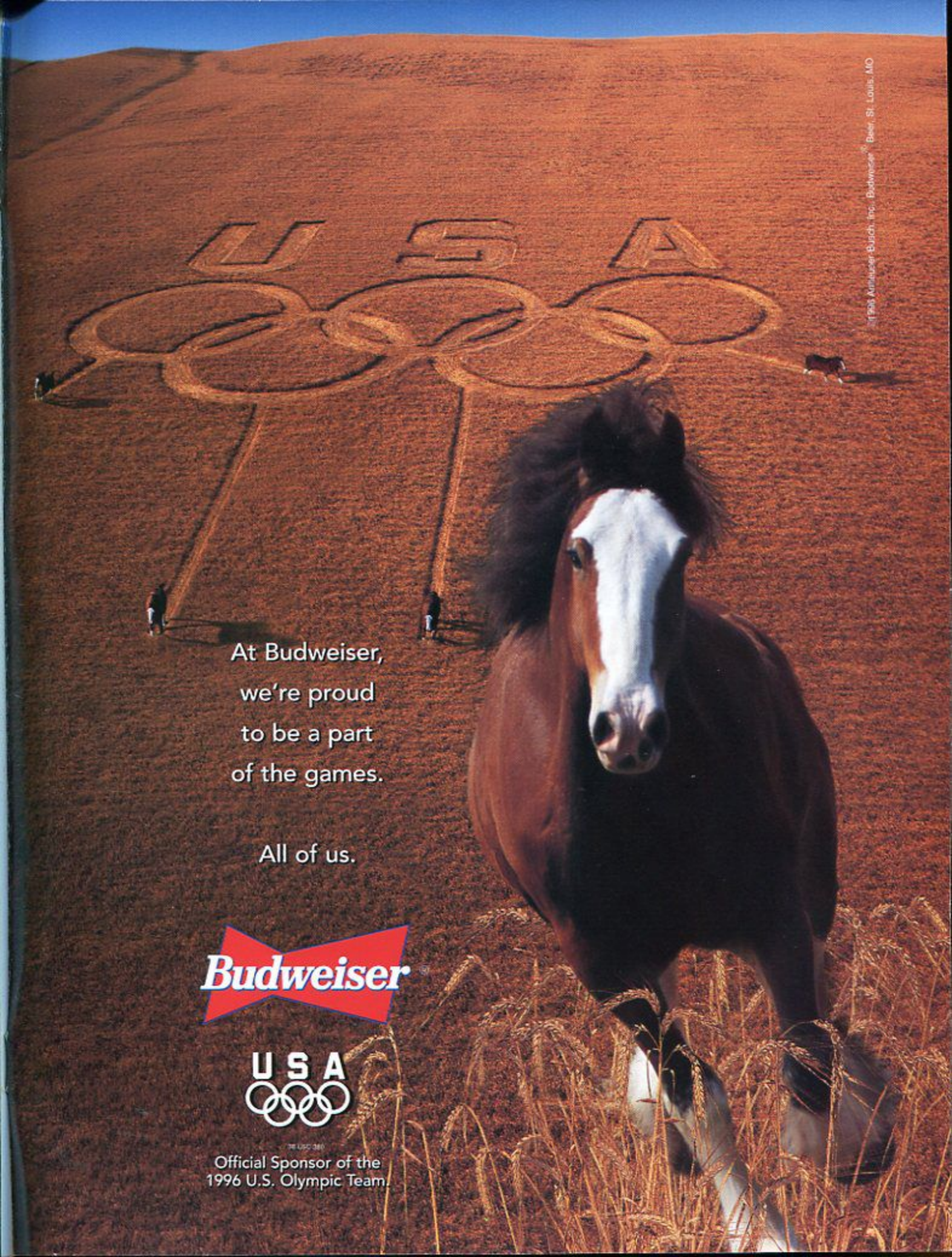
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